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“Christopher Says New Zealand Supportive of US on Number of Issues.” Secretary of State Christopher’s remarks with New Zealand Foreign Minister Donald McKinnon just prior to their New York meeting. (930930)

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CHRISTOPHER SAYS NEW ZEALAND SUPPORTIVE OF U.S. ON NUMBER OF ISSUES (Transcript: Secretary of State’s remarks of 09/30/93) (470) New York — Secretary of State **Christopher** says **New Zealand** has been “very supportive of United States positions on a number of matters, including the situation with Libya.”

The secretary of state was talking to reporters just prior to his bilateral meeting with **New Zealand’s** foreign minister on September 30.

Following is the official transcript of remarks by Secretary of State Warren **Christopher** prior to his bilateral with **New Zealand** Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of External Relations Donald C. McKinnon on September 30:

(begin official transcript) SECRETARY **CHRISTOPHER**: I am pleased to welcome my friend, Foreign Minister McKinnon of **New Zealand**. **New Zealand** is now on the Security Council. That gives particular meaning to our discussions today. **New Zealand** has been very supportive of United States positions on a number of matters, including the situation with Libya. They’re a very strong proponent of trade liberalization and have been a supporter of the conclusion of a GATT round. So we have many things to talk about here in the UN context, and I’m very pleased to welcome Foreign Minister McKinnon.

We’ve just come from a breakfast of all the countries represented in APEC, talking about our November meeting of APEC; so we do, indeed, have much in common.

Don, welcome. It’s very nice to have you. FOREIGN MINISTER McKINNON: Good to be here. Good to be here. SECRETARY **CHRISTOPHER**: Give Foreign Minister McKinnon an opportunity. FOREIGN MINISTER McKINNON: Thank you very much, Mr. Secretary. It is, indeed, a pleasure to have discussions with you. We’ve enjoyed a very good, strong relationship on the Security Council. You gave us backing to get on that Council. We believe there are many, many problems around the world in which we can assist, bringing a small nation’s perspective to those problems. We do continue to enjoy a good, positive relationship with the new Administration.

SECRETARY **CHRISTOPHER**: John. QUESTION: Mr. Secretary, do you think you would be able to reach the \$3 billion goal for the donor’s conference at this conference tomorrow in Washington?

SECRETARY **CHRISTOPHER**: The early results are very encouraging. I think 38 nations have now indicated that they’ll be attending, many of them at the ministerial level. This is more than we anticipated. Indeed, some have taken the unusual step of asking to be invited which, of course, we’re glad to respond to.

We think that we will probably exceed the \$2 billion mark over the next five years, which was the estimate of the World Bank. I think people will probably be making their pledges in that shorter range, John. Frankly, I’m very encouraged by the responses we’ve gotten, and I think that we will meet our targets. (end official transcript) NNNN